



2020 MED Week

MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Nomination Deadline

Wednesday, July 15, 2020

Award recipients will be announced in September

2020 National Minority Enterprise Development Week Awards

Nomination form and instructions can be found at <https://medweek.mbda.gov>





In the unprecedented times our nation is facing during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Minority Business Development Agency will continue the tradition of commemorating the 2020 National MED Week, in a series of **VIRTUAL EVENTS**

SAVE THE DATE
September 14 - 19, 2020

OVERVIEW

Since 1969, the U.S. Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) has been instrumental in fostering the growth and global competitiveness of the Nation's minority-owned businesses. From an estimated 300,000 minority-owned firms in 1969 to more than eight million today, MBDA has led the way in gaining public recognition of the achievements and economic contributions of minority-owned firms.

The MBDA National Minority Enterprise Development Week Awards are the highest level of national recognition that a U.S. minority-owned firm can receive by the U.S. Department of Commerce. These prestigious awards, bestowed during National Minority Enterprise Development Week (MED Week), celebrate the outstanding achievements of minority entrepreneurs, as well as the individuals and organizations that have demonstrated their commitment to advancing minority business enterprises

We recognize that minority communities and businesses have been particularly hurt and continue to face enormous challenges due to COVID-19. This year, in particular, MBDA would like to highlight businesses that have developed and implemented innovative solutions that promote business continuity and the ability to thrive through the challenges. We look forward to acknowledging, recognizing and encouraging the well-deserved accomplishments and ingenuity being demonstrated in the minority business community at this critical time.

AWARD CATEGORIES:

MINORITY FIRMS OF THE YEAR

- Minority Construction Firm of the Year
- Minority Export Firm of the Year
- Minority Manufacturing Firm of the Year
- Minority Health Products and Services Firm of the Year
- Minority Innovative Technology Firm of the Year
- Minority Marketing and Communications Firm of the Year
- Minority Professional Services Firm of the Year
- Minority Veteran-Owned Firm of the Year
- Robert J. Brown Minority Enterprise of the Year

CHAMPIONS OF MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

- Access to Capital Award
- Advocate of the Year
- Distinguished Supplier Diversity Award

INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION

- Abe Venable Legacy Award for Lifetime Achievement
- Ronald H. Brown Leadership Award

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR AN AWARD?

The Minority Firms of the Year Awards are open to minority business enterprises that are owned or controlled by the following persons or group of persons: African American, American Indian, Alaska Native, Asian, Hispanic, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Asian Indian and Hasidic Jews.

The Champions of Minority Business Development Awards eligible nominees include, but are not limited to: business owners, business executives, and representatives of local, state and federal governments or nonprofit organizations, universities, colleges and tribal entities.

The Individual Recognition Awards are open to qualified individuals without regard to ethnicity.

WHO MAY SUBMIT NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS?

Nominations may be submitted by individuals or organizations in any category applicable and may be submitted for more than one award category. Self-nominations are also permitted. In addition, nominations may be submitted by MBDA staff or by representatives of MBDA Business Centers. However, nominations may not be submitted by members of the headquarters review panels or by MBDA Selecting Officials.

AWARD CATEGORIES AND EVALUATION CRITERION

Nominations should discuss each criterion referenced in the applicable award category

MINORITY OWNED FIRMS

➤ MINORITY CONSTRUCTION FIRM OF THE YEAR

Presented to a minority-owned firm that has achieved outstanding success in private or public construction projects and has exhibited revenue and job growth over a sustained period of time.

- Describe the size, scale and types of construction projects
- Explain revenue growth and number of jobs created/retained over a period of time
- Specify challenges overcome – Technical, commercial, competitive or societal
- Describe economic, environmental or societal contributions

➤ MINORITY EXPORT FIRM OF THE YEAR

Presented to a minority-owned firm that has achieved outstanding success in penetrating domestic and global markets.

- Describe how the nominee has penetrated global and domestic markets
- Explain revenue growth and number of jobs created/retained over a period of time
- Specify challenges overcome - Technical, commercial, or competitive
- Describe economic impact, environmental or societal contributions

➤ MINORITY MANUFACTURING FIRM OF THE YEAR

Presented to a minority-owned firm that has achieved success in employing new and innovative techniques that led to a significant increase in market share, job growth and customer satisfaction.

- Describe how the nominee has penetrated global and domestic markets
- Explain revenue growth and number of jobs created/retained over a period of time
- Specify challenges overcome - Technical, commercial, or competitive
- Describe economic impact, environmental or societal contributions



➤ MINORITY INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY FIRM OF THE YEAR

Presented to a minority-owned firm that has achieved outstanding success in promoting the use of technology in new and innovative ways, leading to greater efficiency and higher productivity.

- Describe innovative techniques utilized and the results achieved
- Explain revenue growth and number of jobs created/retained over a period of time
- Specify challenges overcome - Technical, commercial, competitive or societal
- Describe economic, environmental or societal contributions.

➤ MINORITY HEALTH PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FIRM OF THE YEAR

Presented to a minority-owned firm that has improved the quality and delivery of healthcare through innovation.

- Describe the improvements and/or innovations to the quality and delivery of healthcare
- Explain revenue growth and number of jobs created/retained over a period of time
- Specify challenges overcome - Technical, commercial, competitive or societal
- Describe economic, environmental or societal contributions.

➤ MINORITY MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION FIRM OF THE YEAR

Presented to a minority-owned firm who has achieved notable success in the marketing and communication industry by demonstrating creativity and impact.

- Describe creative approaches utilized in campaigns and new marketing tools developed
- Explain revenue growth and number of jobs created/retained over a period of time
- Specify challenges overcome - Technical, commercial, competitive or societal.
- Describe economic, environmental or societal contributions.

➤ MINORITY PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FIRM OF THE YEAR

Presented to a minority-owned firm that has achieved outstanding success in professional, scientific and/or technical services.

- Describe techniques utilized and the results achieved
- Explain revenue growth and number of jobs created/retained over a period of time
- Specify challenges overcome - Technical, commercial, competitive or societal
- Describe economic, environmental or societal contributions

➤ MINORITY VETERAN-OWNED FIRM OF THE YEAR

Presented to a veteran-owned minority business enterprise that has had achieve success in their industry that has led to a significant increase in job growth and customer satisfaction.

- Describe techniques utilized and the results achieved
- Explain revenue growth and number of jobs created/retained over a period of time
- Specify challenges overcome - Technical, commercial, competitive or societal
- Describe economic, environmental or societal contributions

➤ ROBERT J. BROWN MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE OF THE YEAR

Presented to a minority business enterprise that has exceeded industry standards and achieved phenomenal business success leading to significant growth and job creation, while showing a commitment to social responsibility and strong community involvement.

- Specify length of time in business
- Explain growth in revenue and number of employees
- Explain current and past financial performance
- Describe innovative techniques utilized and the results achieved
- Specify challenges overcome-Technical, commercial, competitive or societal
- Describe economic, environmental or societal contributions

➤ ACCESS TO CAPITAL AWARD

Presented to an individual or organization that has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the financial community by providing traditional and/or alternative working or investment capital to minority-owned businesses.

- Documented leadership and advocacy for access to capital
- Specify dollar value of loans or other financial instruments provided to minority businesses or individuals
- Highlight unique strategies, tools, and/or approaches to increase money invested in minority business enterprises
- Describe projects implemented as a result of funding

➤ ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

Presented to an individual or organization that has demonstrated significant accomplishment in advocating minority business enterprise as an economic force in the global economy.

- Describe accomplishments related to the nominees' advocacy efforts
- Highlight specific obstacles, challenges, or issues championed by the advocate
- Specify promotion of MBDA as a significant contributor to the success of MBEs in the global marketplace
- Explain results of the nominees' advocacy efforts

➤ DISTINGUISHED SUPPLIER DIVERSITY AWARD

Presented to the organization or individual whose business practices have had a significant impact on the growth and development of minority-owned firms.

- Specify increased dollar values of purchases from minority business enterprises over the past five (or more) years
- Explain number and types of companies in the nominee's supply chain
- Explain number of jobs created

➤ ABE VENABLE LEGACY AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

The legacy award celebrates high standards of excellence, dedication, and accomplishment over a sustained period of time.

- Describe the role played by the nominee in the development of minority business enterprise over the past 25 (or more) years
- Describe the organization or programmatic improvements the nominee achieved
- Explain the nominee's impact on his/her industry

➤ RONALD H. BROWN LEADERSHIP AWARD

The leadership award is inspired by the outstanding leadership of the late U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Ronald H. Brown.

- Describe the innovations and improvements initiated by the nominee and the results
- Describe the exceptional and effective leadership demonstrated by the nominee
- Explain the extent to which the nominee impacted the global economy

Submit nominations for the 2020 National MED Week awards at

<https://medweek.mbda.gov>

Questions? Please contact:

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